

April 11, 1994

LB 902A, 961, 984, 1087, 1210A
LR 506

PRESIDENT ROBAK: LB 1210A advances. We turn now to senator priority bills on Select File, and LB 1087. Mr. Clerk, before that, items for the record.

CLERK: Yes, Madam President, thank you. Senator Wickersham has amendments to be printed to LB 902A. Senator Preister, a new resolution, LR 506. That will be laid over. (See pages 1891-92 of the Legislative Journal.)

Madam President, LB 1087 was a bill discussed last Friday, I believe. At that time, there was an amendment to the bill by Senator Ashford that was adopted. Senator Lahdis had offered an amendment but there was a priority motion filed by Senator Chambers. Senator Chambers moved to reconsider the vote taken on the Ashford amendment. That is the motion now pending, Madam President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President, members of the Legislature, some of my rural colleagues came to me Friday before the vote on that tax bill, Senator Ashford's amendment, and said no way this bill, this amendment will be attached, the votes are not here. I said that means others than myself will be opposing it. They said it seems so. Well, we all know what happened then, so I am handing around an amendment on another bill. Ordinarily, I don't tie bills together, but if the rural folk are going to insist that my people pay a regressive sales tax, I am going to do all I can to make sure that they continue to pay the tax on breeding livestock as well as the fertilizer tax. There is no need in there being any pretense any longer. We all know that bills become connected. We know that there is a rural-urban split. This amendment that Senator Ashford offered should not have been attached to LB 1087. But since it was, I offered a motion to reconsider that vote, and I am trying to get enough senators to vote to reconsider. It would take 25 votes, and I'll be quite frank. The interest that I've had in LB 961, and LB 984 has been what you might call a passing variety. I have wanted to put an amendment on LB 984, if that is the ethanol bill's number, which would ensure that workers on those plants during construction would be given certain benefits in connection with their job, but beyond that, I have not spent a great amount of time talking about whether or not the bill creates a closed class, whether the amount that these people who grow corn is sufficient at one cent a bushel. I haven't looked